

- Claim 26: The crimp measuring system of claim 24, wherein at least one of the progressive scanning video cameras outputs a digital data signal to the switch board.
- Claim 27: The crimp measuring system of claim 24, wherein the system further comprises a frame grabber.
- Claim 28: The crimp measuring system of claim 27, wherein at least one of the progressive scanning video cameras outputs a video data signal to the switch board.
- Claim 29: The crimp measuring system of claim 28, wherein the video data signal is digitized by the frame grabber after the video signal reaches the switch board.
- Claim 30: The crimp measuring system of claim 24, wherein the at least one peripheral device comprises a crimper controller, a tow tension sensor, a light intensity regulator, external data storage, an audio/video alarm device or a combination thereof.
- Claim 31: The crimp measuring system of claim 24, wherein the processor and stored program processes the data signals by identifying crimp peaks for crimps having a value exceeding a preset threshold and calculating crimp frequencies between neighboring crimp peaks.
- Claim 32: The crimp measuring system of claim 24, wherein the I/O interface comprises at least one data acquisition board.
- Claim 33: The crimp measuring system of claim 32, wherein the at least one data acquisition board comprises sufficient analog and digital channels for I/O communications between the computer and the at least one peripheral device.
- Claim 34: The crimp measuring system of claim 24, further comprising a light source positioned proximate to the plurality of progressive scanning video cameras.
- Claim 35: The crimp measuring system of claim 34, wherein the light source illuminates a plurality of fibers in a moving crimped tow.
- Claim 36: The crimp measuring system of claim 34, wherein the stored program operates the light source.

- Claim 37: The crimp measuring system of claim 24, further comprising a start-up mode for processing start-up portions of a crimped tow and for signaling a normal condition upon the start-up portions satisfying a predefined criteria.
- Claim 38: The crimp measuring system of claim 24, wherein the processor and the stored program divides non-interlaced image into a series of horizontal bands and for establishing an intensity profile of each of the bands by averaging pixel intensity of sequential horizontal lines within each of the bands.
- Claim 39: The crimp measuring system of claim 24, wherein the processor and the stored program processes the data as minima and maxima intensity profiles wherein a maxima is labeled as a crimp peak if difference in intensity between the maxima and its two neighboring minima exceeds an operator-specified intensity threshold value.
- Claim 40: The crimp measuring system of claim 24, wherein the processor and the stored program calculates distances of neighboring crimp peaks, compares the distances with operator-specified thresholds, groups the crimp peaks into one of a micro, normal or large categories, and tabulates overall crimp statistics for a non-interlaced image.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Insert the following before "Field of the Invention":

This application is a divisional of allowed application Serial Number 09/621,845
July 24, 2000.

REMARKS

No new matter was added by this preliminary amendment.

Please use 30-5081 DIV (4580) as the docket number for this application.

REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

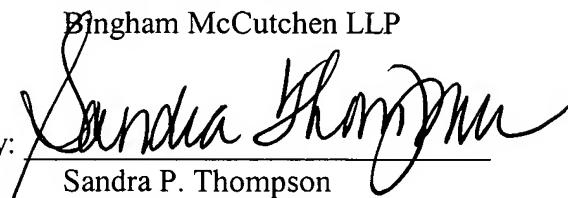
Claims 24-40 are pending in this application. The applicants request allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: November 18, 2003

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